



Commemorative Air Force Wisconsin Wing Newsletter

Chartered April 30th, 1982

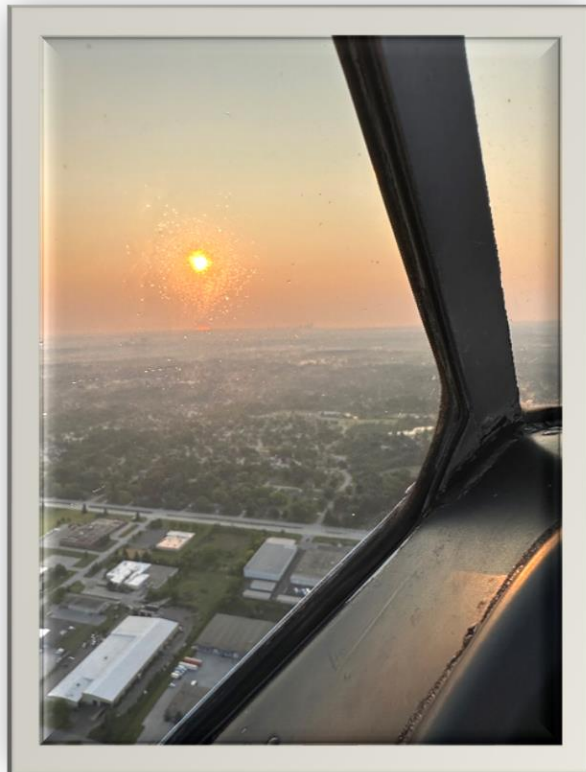
Editor: Brad Ohde

July 2023, Issue #2307

From the Front Cockpit
Col Gary Otto – Wing Leader



COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE Wisconsin Wing Newsletter



July is a **BIG** month for flying in Wisconsin, and the WI Wing is active in many areas carrying out our mission to Educate, Inspire and Honor.

On June 17th, we flew another Honor Flight Escort Mission with the SNJ and the T-34 (see photo to the left)!

AirVenture is coming up fast. Our July meeting will highlight what you can do there if you attend, and how you can make the most of your visit to Oshkosh.

Simple message to our members: Go to AirVenture and represent the CAF WI Wing well!

Gary Otto
Wing Leader



EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2023

Fly-In & Convention

Dates: 7/24/2023 - 7/30/2023

Venue: EAA Fly-In Convention Grounds, [Oshkosh WI, United States](#)

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Wisconsin Wing News



Maintenance Report – July 2023: *by Col Scott Twesme – WI Wing Maintenance Officer*

- T-34 → T-34 is flying well, still working with Plane Safe to get the gear warning horn adjusted properly. Intercom issues seem better. Ideally it would be nice to have an updated radio stack/ comm panel/ intercom.
- SNJ → SNJ is flying well after the carburetor rebuild. It's still burning too much fuel after install and will take a few more adjustments to get right, but it's not critical. One gear down indicator light in the rear cockpit is burned out, I'll have to get a bulb for that in the near future.

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Operations Report – July 2023: *by Col Mike Woods, CAF WI Wing Operations Officer*

June was a good flying month as both planes are flying well. Both Scott Twesme and Gary Otto have been flying the SNJ and Mike Heileman, Jeff Karsten and Mike Woods have been flying the T-34.

John Reed has come up with a very detailed plan to keep track of all of our flying credentials and checkout procedures so both Gary and Mike will get back to him to either fine tune it or implement it.

The T34 has had a lot of radio issues, so both Nav/Coms were pulled out by Skycom and found to be defective. One of them is probably beyond economic repairs and the other one could be too. One of the Nav/Coms was replaced by a CAF spare radio and the other one is a loaner from Skycom, and they said they would give us a cost on a used KX155.

After test flights we found that noise cancelling headsets do not work well in the T-34, so David Clarks work best with a muff over the microphone. Also, the portable intercoms may be troublesome too so best to use the built in Interphone system, but that is not a perfect answer for non-pilot back seaters. Skycom said they could put a built in intercom but it would be Fall before they would have time. Cost about \$600 for the unit, but install cost is unknown now.

We are now waiting for Plane Safe to put in our dual manifold/fuel flow gauge, and we are still waiting to get the rest of our Mouse off of the tail.

John Reed has two more possible T-34 pilots to contact which I will do in a day or two.

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HANGAR DOOR SAFETY REMINDER: *By Col Evan Bauer*



LOOK OUT!

When opening or closing any hangar door make sure the safety latch is fully in the correct position and the door is free of any obstructions. It's always a good idea to give a verbal CLEAR prior to opening or closing hangar doors in case anyone is in the vicinity. Make sure any aircraft, tug, and/or equipment has plenty of clearance before operating.

When in doubt check twice!



Wisconsin Wing News



Education Update: by Col Candy Parr – WI Wing Education Officer

Milwaukee Air & Water Show 2023

WING Members – Free opportunity to raise money & AWARENESS for our WING!
We cannot survive as a Wing without fundraising, donations, or volunteers.
Can you volunteer a few times a year - Once every other month?

Let's Educate Southeastern WI! Let's Inspire to recruit NEW members, Pilots & Sponsors! Let's Honor our military & veterans! Find more guest speakers for our WING meetings and Veterans to take up in our Warbird! Let's Keep'em Flying!

We will have a booth at the 19th year of the Milwaukee Air & Water Show that has an economic impact each year exceeding \$3,000,000! July 22nd & 23rd from 8 AM to 5 PM. Could you help? 2 or 4-hour shift?

*** Please reach out by Friday July 14th or sooner.:


- Col Ed Pleva → Text/Call 262-844-0965 or email ed.pleva@gmail.com
- Col Candy Parr → Text/Call 262 490 0330 or email candy.parr2018@gmail.com

Since this show is a free event for people to attend it has a BIG attendance! Let's take advantage of it! It is billed as "the largest two-day event in Wisconsin, with an attendance of almost 1,000,000 people in 2022.

PS..... Next Year we were told they will try to move it up a week to avoid the EAA AirVenture week. ☺

June 23 CAF WI WING Food Truck Friday at KUES

Evan B, Mike G & I donated \$200 to sponsor the day on the behalf of CAF WI Wing. Great weather! Kurt always makes a great plug for us over the PA. Canon & Dunphy client was there for an ad shoot. They took photos with our aircrafts. She will be starting a new career as a flight attendant. Her daughter was also there and went up in the SNJ with Scott.



2023 Event Schedule

FRIDAY, JULY 21

Air Show Practice: 10 AM – 3 PM

SATURDAY – SUNDAY, JULY 22 – 23

Parking Lots Open: 8 AM
 Gates Open: 9 AM
 Water Show: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
 Air Show: Noon – 4 PM
 Navy Blue Angels: 3 PM



Wisconsin Wing News



Education Update: by Col Candy Parr – WI Wing Education Officer
(cont'd from previous page)

Food truck Friday!!!





Wisconsin Wing News



Welcome
New Members!!!

2022-23		
Donn Droegkamp (Pewaukee) *** Gold Lifetime Member ***	Al Pavik (TX-Coyote Squadron Member)	Eric Ruediger (Racine)
Jackson LaManna (Mequon) *** Cadet ***	Laura Stants (Indiana Wing)	John Reed
Scott Slay	Mitch Saltzberg	Candy Parr
George Bacik	Jeff Karsten	Cadet Francis Anderer (Noel Skerven's Nephew!)
Joe Van Wie	Glenn Leidel	Brian Liddle *** Life Member ***
Mary Berg	Eric Chappelear	Evan Bauer
Dan Butler	Tony Madonia	Mike Heileman
Steve Janke	Larry McClellan	

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WI Wing Membership Meeting

You are invited to the CAF WI Wing on Sat., July 8th, 2023

10:30 AM Central Time → Waukesha Airport Terminal Conf. Room
(Airport Drive, Waukesha)

Program: Getting the most out of your visit to AirVenture.

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***** CAF Website is updated and ready for action!!! *****

Go to www.cafwi.org and check out all the updates and additions that our webmaster, Steve Lark, has made on the site. If you are a member, you need the member password to access the member resources. Call Steve Lark or any officer to get the PW if you do not have it.

COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE WISCONSIN WING



**WELCOME TO THE COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE
WISCONSIN WING
OUR MISSION: EDUCATE, INSPIRE AND HONOR**



Wisconsin Wing News



Mission Reports: *by Col Gary Otto*

Mauston 6/30-7/1:

Gary Otto, Jeff Karsten, and Tom McDermott flew our SNJ and T-34 to Mauston on June 30-July 1 to support our good friends in Mauston!!

Several veterans received free flights to honor their service.



Mission Reports: *by Col Tom Leunig & Col Ed Pleva*

The Wisconsin Wing PX has had a successful run so far this summer. We have participated in many events and the volunteers have had a great time. Some of the recent events include (see related photos on the next few pages):

EAA Warbird Squadron 32 at Oshkosh on June 10th:

This event was a fly-in pancake breakfast, car show, and EAA Young Eagles flights. Our SNJ was there on display and flown in by Gary Otto. There were also several other interesting liaison aircraft; a Piper L-4 Grasshopper and a Cessna 305A Bird Dog. We supported our friendly EAA Squadron 32 at this event.

WW-II Days at Old Falls Village Park in Menomonee Falls:

This was a huge two-day event that honors WW-II veterans and includes mock battles; British, German, and American reenactor encampments; military vehicles, and vendors. Each day during the mock skirmishes a SNJ would fly over and make several passes to awe the crowd and add to the realism of the event. (Thanks Col Gary Otto!).

Food Truck Fridays at the Waukesha Airport:

These are fun events occurring every Friday during the summer. There are two different food trucks at each event, and we set up the PX in a prime location. Primary customers at this event are children who come with their parents or grandparents. Friday, June 30th was exceptional with a large turnout and some very interesting aircraft. This included our SNJ, a USN T-28 Trojan, a Boeing CH-47 Chinook on its way back to Billings, MT after fighting forest fires in Quebec, and a freshly restored TH-55A Osage helicopter! (Flown in by a guy named Col Wally Garlock). If you have not attended a Food Truck Friday, come on out for an exciting day! There are 9 more running through September 1.

Special thanks to Col Ed Pleva for upgrading the PX inventory pricing, and record keeping procedures. Also, to regulars for set-up Colonels Larry McClellan, Glenn Leidel, George Crawford, and Tom Leunig. Plus, to all CAF members who stop by for a visit and to assist in tearing down.

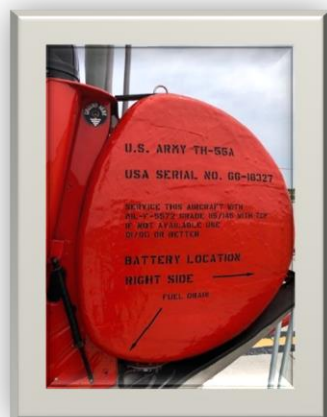


Wisconsin Wing News



Mission Report: by Col Tom Leunig & Col Ed Pleva

FOOD TRUCK Fridays!!!



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Wisconsin Wing News



Mission Report: by Col Tom Leunig & Col Ed Pleva

WW-II Days!!!



Mission Report: by Col Tom Leunig & Col Ed Pleva

Oshkosh Squadron 32 Event...





Wisconsin Wing News



Mission Report by Col Mike Woods

On June 16, Col Steve Lark and I flew to West Bend with our T-34 to support EAA Chapter 1158's Air Camp. We arrived at 9:30 and gave the kids the history and specs of the plane. Then they took turns climbing in and dreaming of when they could fly such a dream ship. A few of them were already taking lessons and a couple more wanted a ride. I gave them a card and told them to have their parents call. Maybe we will recruit a couple more cadets.

After leaving West Bend, we flew back to Waukesha for Food Truck Friday. Steve and I showed the airplane to several adults and kids, and a couple of the adults showed interest in joining our wing.





Wisconsin Wing News



Earliest Memories..... by Col Michael Guslick

One of my earliest memories is of Oshkosh, long before the days of 'AirVenture'. No, back then it was known as the "EAA Fly-In". Some may argue that the grass-roots event formed in those halcyon days are no longer what composes Oshkosh each summer. Oshkosh has changed and evolved, as have the rest of us. Many changes for the better, some perhaps more questionable. Yet I hope that Oshkosh never retreats from being an event where young memories are formed.

It was on a particular summer day that my grandfather (a USAAF cadet that went on to work on the B-32 Dominator) and uncles brought me to Oshkosh for the Fly-In. Mind you, being only 6 years old, my aviation interest was purely in jet fighters – anything with a prop was immediately rejected as undeserving of attention in my young mind, and getting dragged through the warbird section seemed boring and pointless when there were fast, pointy-nosed jets over in the main square! ("Can we go see the F-15 now? Pleeese?")

We were walking through countless rows of airplanes during the airshow, when from the south came a flight of old fighter planes in a Vic formation. Normally, this would not have interested me one bit (they had props, after all – ugh, so boring!), but in the #2 position was an F-14A Tomcat. As a result, this formation had my fullest attention. (Only decades later did I realize that I had been witness to a legendary 'Flight of the Grumman Cats'). After all, in the handful of airplane books I had, the F-14 was practically the peak of modern aviation, loaded with missiles, capable of incredible speeds, and able to defeat absolutely any adversary it was presented with. Any kid who had seen 'The Final Countdown' from the year prior knew that this airplane was the very definition of 'apex predator'. *

As the formation passed overhead, the F-14 lit the twin TF30 burners into full 'zone 5' reheat, swept its wings, and pulled up into the vertical. The sound was utterly unimaginable, reverberating all across the grounds, and it was the SINGLE MOST AWESOME THING I had ever witnessed in my life to that point. **

Yet meanwhile, my grandfather and uncles did not appear to share my unbridled excitement. There was a trumpet playing over the PA system – a sad, mournful melody that years later I would know as 'Taps'. My grandfather and uncles knelt down next to me and told me to remove my hat. They quietly explained to me that what I was seeing was called the 'missing man formation'. They briefly told me the history of this presentation, and its sanctity – a display of deepest reverence for fallen aviators. It was not a celebration, but a remembrance, with the splitting aircraft flying west towards the setting sun to honor those that did not return. I didn't understand it very well then, but I most certainly do now.

I recall this memory every time I go to Oshkosh. The warbird section is now always my first stop, and I remember the service of my grandfather and other now-gone relatives when I walk through the rows of proud aircraft and ponder their heritage. Some of those fast, pointy jets I loved as a kid (and still do) now reside there, too. While the F-14 is no longer flying and adding a proper roar to a 'Flight of the Grumman Cats' formation, the Heritage Flight teams have stepped up to provide the gravitas of heartfelt military aircraft displays of that caliber. When they fly overhead from behind the crowd for the final break pass, I'll give a glance around me at the people nearby – I'll hope that there's a 6-year old looking skyward with the same sense of awe and wonder as I did over 4 decades ago. Perhaps they'll get that same spark as well, and eventually become one who will steward these proud aircraft when the rest of us are gone.

**If you recall this classic film from before 'Top Gun' or 'Iron Eagle', or even if you don't, the air-to-air scenes are utterly phenomenal. VF-84 is on display in their most iconic livery, and the vast majority of flying is 100% real (with the 'Zeros' being flown by CAF pilots!) A kind soul has posted the most epic flying scenes in full HD quality in 4 parts here:*

<https://youtu.be/1SwgU42XSpw>
<https://youtu.be/8M74yB9duRc>

https://youtu.be/NkOsXNF_ZoM
https://youtu.be/RnDlp_ebEk0

***Sport Aviation Dec. 1981, page 36 recounted it, and I had to revise a few minor details of this retelling after refreshing old memories dimmed by many years of time, yet brightened by the brilliant EAA archive. The one-line summary matches my own childhood recollection perfectly at any rate: "It was unforgettable." And indeed it was.*



Wisconsin Wing News



NORTHERN ILLINOIS AIRSHOW 2021

Saturday Sept. 11th
Waukegan Airport
 2601 W. Plane Rest Drive

Tickets: \$15
 Active Duty Military, Veterans
 with I.D. and Kids 12 and Under
FREE!

Featuring:
 Fully-Restored
FG-1D "Corsair"
 WARBIRO
 HERITAGE FOUNDATION

**Gates Open:
 9:30 AM**

**Airshow:
 12:00 PM**

847.244.0055 • NorthernIllinoisAirshow.com

9.11.01 SPECIAL TRIBUTE

Corsair photo courtesy of CAP

Friday Food Truck Day 11 AM to 1:30 PM
Location: Waukesha County Airport -
2525 Aviation Drive

**** Portion of the food truck sales go to the non-profit of the day**

Food Truck Schedule 2023		
Date	Truck 1	Truck 2
6/2/2023	Densons	Sandwich Sisters
6/9/2023	A&A Cafe	Pina Mexican Eats
6/16/2023	Marco Pollo	Taqueria Miyagi
6/23/2023	Scrima- Fish/ Shrimp	Rose Mob
6/30/2023	Mr. P's	Sandwich Sisters
7/7/2023	A&A Cafe	Densons
7/14/2023	Pina Mexican Eats	Timbers
7/21/2023	Lumpia City	Marco Pollo
7/28/2023	Scrima- Fish/ Shrimp	Troublemakers Cocina
8/4/2023	Rose Mob	Sandwich Sisters
8/11/2023	Timbers	Troublemakers Cocina
8/18/2023	Mr. P's	Pina Mexican Eats
8/25/2023	Lumpia City	Densons
9/1/2023	Rose Mob	Taqueria Miyagi



SHAWANO AIRPORT
An Anytime Destination for the Whole Family!

ANNUAL FLY-IN & CAR SHOW
 August 19th 9:00AM-2:00PM
 No Admission Fee
 Antiques, Classics, War Birds, Showcars & Sky Divers!
 Rain Date: August 20th

VISIT US FOR UPDATES AND SURPRISES:
www.ShawanoAirport.com
 248 Airport Rd
 Shawano, WI 54166

"KEZS" **715-526-2465**

Calendar – Upcoming Events

Please go to cafwi.org for more details on all the Commemorative Air Force Wisconsin 2023 Wing activities.

Notes: CAF WI Wing activity always subject to weather and aircraft availability

- WI Wing Staff meetings are always 10 days prior to each wing meeting and open to all members to attend.
- Waukesha Airport Food Truck Fridays Run June 2nd thru Sept. 1st, with WI Wing PX attending and Aircraft support.

Date	Event Name	Location	Time	PX Booth	Education Table	T-34A	SNJ-5
July 8	Wing Meeting	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
July 19-23	CAF AirPower History Tour FiFi & Diamond 'Lil +	TBA		???		x	x
July 24-July 30	EAA AirVenture	Oshkosh Airport		no	no	x	x
Aug 2	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
Aug 5	Old Glory Honor Flt Event	Fly Over Oshkosh					flyover
Aug 5	Menomonee Fly In	Fly In		???		???	???
August 12	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
TBA	RC Warbirds and Classics Over the Midwest	Welnuts RC Field SE of Fond du Lac	TBA	x			flyover
August 19	Shawano Fly-In	Shawano	All day/rain 8-20	X?		x	x
August 30	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
Sept 1	Food Truck Friday – Last	Waukesha terminal	11am to 2pm	x	x	x	x
September 9	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM			X	x
September 9	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
Sept 9	Oconto Fly-In	Oconto Airport	9:00AM – 4:00PM	???		X	x*
Sept 9	Waukegan Fly-in	Waukegan, IL		X			X
Sept 9-10	115 th FW Family Day	Madison Airport				x	
October 1	Burlington Fly In	Burlington, WI Airport	TBD	???			
October 4	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
October 7	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM				
October 14	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
October TBA	Corsicana Airshow	Corsicana, TX Coyote Sqdn	Sat. 10-8 all day				
November 1	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
November 4	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM				XDark?
November 4	Veterans Day Parade	Fly Overs	11AM???				
November 11	Wing Meeting & Lunch Election nominations	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
November 24	Trip to EAA Museum	Oshkosh, WI	9:00 a.m.				
November 29	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
December TBA	WI WING Holiday Party	Brewhaus	Details to follow				
December 9	Wing Meeting Election for 2024-5 terms	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
TBA	N103JC return to flight	Tulsa OK Wing	TBA				

* Updates as of July 5th, 2023.

Contact Noel Skerven at 262-239-8773 or Gary Otto at 262-875-1640 with questions or information to share.

For the latest EAA AirVenture news & info go to:

<https://www.eaa.org/airventure>



WI Wing Staff

<u>Position</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Contact Info.</u>
Wing Leader:	Gary Otto	262-875-1640 gary.arthur.otto@gmail.com
Executive Officer:	*** Open *** This could be you!	
Finance Officer:	Tony Madonia	312-208-9840 tony@madonia.com
Maintenance Officer:	Scott Twesme	920-650-6101 srtzen@gmail.com
Operations Officer:	Mike Woods	262-781-0487 mikewwoods@gmail.com
Safety Officer:	Evan Bauer	901-541-0476 bauere25@gmail.com
Ground Crew Leader:	*** Open *** This could be you!	
Public Information Officer:	Bob Vajgrt	414-550-2770 dawnbob@wi.rr.com
Development Officer:	Tom McDermott	608-289-2424 mcfender@yahoo.com
Education Officer:	Candy Parr	262-490-0330 cparr@jamesimaging.com candy.parr2018@gmail.com
Membership Officer:	Michael Guslick	262-203-6049 haveblue@haveblue.org
Adjutant Officer:	John Leidel	262-538-1542 mfd4401@yahoo.com
Events Officer:	Noel Skerven	262-239-8773 nxskerven@gmail.com
Historian:	Brian Liddle	920-634-7034 liddle.brian@yahoo.com
Newsletter:	Brad Ohde	262-309-8600 brad.ohde@outlook.com
PX Leader:	Ed Pleva	262-844-0965 ed.pleva@gmail.com
PX Volunteer Coord.:	*** Open *** This could be you!	
Fly-Over Coord.	Vic Stottlemeyer	262-391-5110 stottlemey7@aol.com
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